

Message Text

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15

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /157 W
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R 200639Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6698

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USINT CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, PL

SUBJECT: POLISH UNEF CONTINGENT

REF: WARSAW 5955

DEPARTMENT PASS DEFENSE

1. ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI AND TRYBUNA LUDU ON NOV 19
CARRIED FURTHER COVERAGE OF THE DEPARTURE FOR EGYPT
OF THE FIRST SECTION OF THE POLISH UNEF CONTINGENT ON
NOV 16 WHICH PROVIDES ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF SIZE
AND COMPOSITION OF THE CONTINGENT.

2. THE NOV 16 SECTION WAS AN ADVANCE PARTY CHARGED
WITH MAKING THE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE MAIN BODY OF THE
CONTINGENT, WHICH WILL TOTAL 800 AND BE DRAWN LARGELY
FROM AN ENGINEERING UNIT OF THE SIXTH POMERANIAN AIR-
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BORNE DIVISION, AUGMENTED BY SPECIALISTS FROM OTHER UNITS.

THE ARTICLES WERE ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING POLISH ARMY VEHICLES PAINTED WHITE WITH UN ON THE SIDES.

3. BIO DATA ON THE UNITS COMMANDER, COL. JAROSZ, IN ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI INDICATES HE IS A HIGHLY-REGARDED CAREER OFFICER, WITH 24 YEARS SERVICE, THE LAST 10 IN THE SIXTH POMERANIAN AIRBORNE. HE IS A GRADUATE OF POLISH GENERAL STAFF ACADEMY, THE ROUGH EQUIVALENT OF THE US COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL.

4. COL. JAROSZ WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT, ON THE BASIS OF A DECISION OF THE UN SECRETARIAT, THE POLISH CONTINGENT WILL BE BASED IN THE REGION OF CAIRO.

5. THE LEAD STORY IN ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI OF NOV 19 ON THE POLISH CONTINGENT WAS HEADED BY A LARGE PHOTO OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND POLITBURO MEMBER, GENERAL OF THE ARMY JARUZELSKI, VISITING AN ENGINEERING UNIT IN TRAINING NEAR WARSAW FOR THE UNEF MISSION. THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF WHAT JARUZELSKI MAY HAVE SAID ON THIS OCCASION.

6. COMMENT: WE ARE STRUCK BY THE OBVIOUS POLISH DESIRE TO APPEAR TOTALLY INDEPENDENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT IN THIS OPERATION, TO THE EXTENT OF FURNISHING THEIR OWN AIRLIFT FOR THEIR ADVANCE PARTY. WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN AIRLIFT FOR THE MAIN BODY OF THEIR TROOPS AND LIGHT EQUIPMENT, POSSIBLY SENDING MOST OF THEIR HEAVIER EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORT BY SEA. THE POLISH ARMED FORCES HAVE THE AIRLIFT CAPACITY TO UNDERTAKE THIS OPERATION WITHOUT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE.
DAVIES

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